

Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program

State of Washington, Department of Social & Health Services

Dear Washington Primary Care Provider,

Many babies and toddlers with disabilities or delayed development in our state are benefiting from early intervention services. Yet we know that about half of all children with such difficulties are not identified until they reach school age.

As a primary care provider dedicated to the care of young children, families entrust you with the health of their children and turn to you for expert clinical judgement and advice. You are in a key position to identify, at the earliest possible age, children with potential developmental delays.

If you or a family has a concern about a child's development, help is available in Washington State. The **Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program** (ITEIP) coordinates a statewide system of early intervention services and assistance in accessing those services. When you call a **Family Resources Coordinator** (FRC), they will assist you and families to:



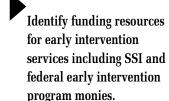
Arrange more in-depth developmental screening or evaluation to verify or rule-out the need for early intervention services;



Explain early intervention services available and help develop an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), if needed;



Access other community programs such as parent support, respite, and transportation; and





Developmental screening and evaluation and FRC services are provided at no cost to families.

Families continue to provide testimony about the positive impact of intervention and early referral on the lives of their children and families. Here are a few

examples of what families are saying about early intervention services:

"Looking back on it, it was hard; but at least our doctor didn't say 'let's just wait and see'. He didn't put us off. After the evaluation we knew what our son needed. We didn't waste a lot of time just worrying about what to do."

"My Family Resources Coordinator (FRC) really goes the extra mile. She is an amazing information resource. If she does not know what the solution is, she says 'we'll find a way'."

"The therapists have been great. They have been a major source of support both in terms of giving us information about our child's diagnosis and the emotional support of having a child with a disability."

"Our son will never reach the major developmental milestones – he'll never walk or talk – but he is definitely making progress. Therapy has helped us appreciate his small triumphs and allowed us to simply enjoy him as our son."

Parents' Rights for Referral

Federal and state legislation assert that parents have a right to be referred for early intervention services if there is an established or suspected delay in their child's development. The intent is that every family who might need services have information about the availability of programs and that referrals be made in a timely manner.

Washington State requirements for the ITEIP state that individuals, who are in a position to make early intervention referrals shall:

- ➤ Refer families to an FRC within two working days of identifying a developmental delay or a disability that could lead to a delay, unless a family requests an extension to the timeline or requests that a referral not be made:
- Explain the services available to families when they accept a referral to an FRC (including screening, evaluation, service coordination, an IFSP, and the potential for special funding);
- ► Inform parents that the referral does not commit them to participate in the early intervention program;
- Maintain written documentation of the parent's permission to refer, the parent's request that a referral not be made, or the parent's request to extend the 2-day referral timeline.

Therefore primary care providers are asked to:

- ► Attend to developmental milestones
- Ask parents about their children's development and
- Respond to parents' concerns.

From a pediatrician's experience:

"Doctors are often worried that talking about a child's development will scare the parent. The opposite is true. Parents are often pleased to be offered a venue to talk about their child's development and relieved to share any concerns they may have.

Parents worry in their hearts, in their guts. Yet many may not bring up their concerns during the well child visit, especially when the doctor seems so busy."

So...

Please Ask, Babies Can't Wait

Additional information about the Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program is available at 360-902-8488 (TDD 360-902-7864) or at http://www.wa.gov/dshs/iteip/iteip.html

Thank you for referring to early intervention services and for your ongoing commitment to Washington's children and their families.

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Sandy Loerch Month

Director, Infant Todaller Early Intervention Program

State of Washington, Department of Social & Health Services

Dr. Nancy Anderson, M.D.

Acting Medical Director, Medical Asssistance Administration State of Washington, Department of Social & Health Services

How to contact a Family Resources Coordinator (FRC) Enclosed is a list of Family Resources Coordinators in Washington State. Families can call the FRC directly or, with the family's permission, you or your office staff can make the call. The FRC can also provide you with brochures and posters about the **Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program** and child development charts for sharing with families or posting in your office.

Also, anyone can call the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies hotline (1-800-322-2588) for local resource and service information and/or be transferred to an FRC or other community program.

ITEIP Lead Family Resources Coordinator Phone List By County

Adams CountyCallie Moore

(509)659-3315

Asotin County

Carrie Gurgel (509)758-9842

Benton and Franklin County

Linda Lively

(509)946-5157 ext 126 1(800)210-0313

Chelan-Douglas Counties

Leah Harris (509)664-3781

Clallam County

Judy Middleton (360)374-9340

Clark County

Evelyn McBride (360)896-9912 x 170

Columbia County

Lynna Larsen (509)382-2181

Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties

Lori Carpenter (360)577-2714

Ferry Stevens Pend Oreille Counties

Chris Binckley

(509)684-5048 or 1-800-827-3218

Garfield County

Leta Travis (509)843-3412

Grant County

Laura Moncada (509)765-5809

Grays Harbor County

Kelly Miller (360)533-9414

Island County

Rosie Noble (360)679-1039

Jefferson County

Judy Middleton (360)374-9340

King County

Sandy Duncan 1-800-756-5437 or 206-284-0331

King Co. South

Julia Anderson

(253) 939-3311 ext. 321

Kitsap County

Monique Bartoldus 1(800)449-1660

Kittitas County

Janea Graebier (509)933-7042

Klickitat County

Lillie Pyke (509)493-1392

Lewis County

Rayna Austin (360)748-4359

Lincoln County

Debra Means (509)725-9213 x30

ITEIP Lead Family Resources Coordinator Phone List By County

Mason County

Vicki Anderson (360)426-5430

Okanogan County

Leonel Marcial (509)826-8497

Pacific County

Rosanne McPhail (360)642-4089

Pierce County

Athena Elrod (253)798-3790

San Juan County

Edith Thomsen (360)378-4474

Skagit County

Cynthia Hubert (360)416-7570

Skamania County

Klickitat Skamania Dev. Council

Bob Marley (509)493-2662

Snohomish County

Meg Voedisch (425)339-1965 or 1-800-927-9308

Spokane Tribe (Stevens)

Dena Moses 1-800-789-4282 ext 38 or (509)258-7502

Spokane County

Johanna Anderson (509)324-1651

Also

Spokane County

Tammy McCauley (509)324-1471

Thurston County

Linda Sisson (360)352-1126

Walla Walla County

Teri Hough (509)527-3278

Whatcom County

Maureen Godwin (360)738-2522

Whitman County

Sue Kreikemeier (509)332-6561 or (509)332-4420

Yakima County

Jackie McPhee (509)574-3260 or 1-800-745-1077